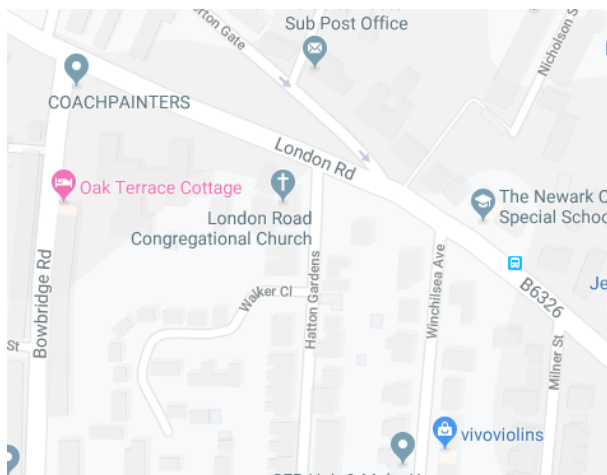


Contact Us



56 London Road Newark, Notts
NG24 1TH

Phone: Minister (Mark Taylor) 07954 172823
Hall bookings (Victoria Bunn) 07834 287152

Email: newarkcongregational@virginmedia.com
newarkpubtheology@virginmedia.com
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Facebook: Newark Congregational Church
Just Sing Newark
Newark Pub Theology



Newark Congregational Church

56 London Road Newark, Notts
NG24 1TH

Newark Congregational Church - an introduction (4th edition - April 2025)



Inclusive Church



Congregational
Federation

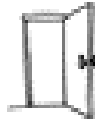


Welcome

Whether you are a new visitor to our church or have picked up this leaflet out of general interest – we wish you a warm welcome.

We hope that you find in this short booklet useful information about our church. If you have questions we haven't answered there are lots of links on the back page to where you can find out more.

We'd be only too pleased to hear from you, and to see you at one or more of the activities you will find described on pages 4-6. There's something to suit most people, and you don't have to be a Christian to join in – we've marked the ones that are most suitable for people of other faiths and non-believers with this 'open door' symbol and we promise that if you come to one of these events in particular that you won't have religion thrust at you.



But of course we do want more people to become followers of Jesus so we'll do everything we can to help you if that is what you are looking for and we'd love to see you at a service. If you've not been to church before Café Church might be a good place to start.

We see ourselves as a very forward-thinking church. Our 'Manifesto' (p8) and our 'Inclusive Church Statement' (p9) are very important to us and sum up what we believe. Everyone will find a welcome here.

Finally – our church is here to serve our community and the people who live in it. If you have any personal or spiritual needs we will do our best to help you. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours, in Christ's name.

Mark Taylor

Plans for the Future

We are a growing and ambitious church.

We've recently

- agreed to give regular financial support to an orphanage in Tanzania;
- opened up the church hall on Friday afternoons for a place of quiet retreat;
- Launched our 'Live at London Road' arts organisation.

There are lots more things we'd love to do, such as:

Building our links with our local community, in particular with the LGBT+ community;

Replacing the pews in the church with more-comfortable and flexible seating;

Installing a better sound and lighting system.

What would you like our church to do? We'd love to hear from you at

newarkcongregational@virginmedia.com

What is a Congregational Church?

In England Congregational churches date back to 1662 when some people wanted independence from the established church to allow them more freedom in the way they wanted to worship.

Congregational churches are run by their local members, who make all the decisions about how the church operates. No one else can tell us what to do. We hold church meetings where through the power of the Holy Spirit we 'seek the mind of Christ' in determining what we should do.

Our Ministers, although they have a special role in spiritual leadership, teaching and preaching, are also members of the church, equal in status to other members.

We don't have a statement of faith, or a list of things we have to believe in to become a member. Our beliefs can be summarised as 'I believe in God and accept Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour.'

We invite all who love the Lord Jesus Christ to share Communion.

We baptise both children and adults and can undertake wedding and funerals on our premises.

We think that Congregationalism is the best way of being church!

Hiring our Church Hall

Our church hall is available to hire for clubs, organisations, private parties etc. Rates are £15/hour – less for charitable events. To enquire about availability and bookings please phone 07834 287152 or email newarkcongregational@virginmedia.com

Our Minister - Mark Taylor



Mark has been Minister at London Road since autumn 2020. He is a retired Local Government Officer with a B.A. in Practical Theology. He is an accredited Preacher of the Congregational Federation.

Mark leads the Café service and one other service each month. He also organizes Film Club, Book Club and Pub Theology. He is the chair of the Just Sing! choir.

Mark served as national President of the Congregational Federation for 2022/23 and remains a member of the CF Council.



The Congregational Federation

Like many independent Congregational churches, ours is affiliated to the Congregational Federation, an umbrella body that provides support in areas such as legal compliance, training, recruitment, finance and safeguarding.

www.congregational.org.uk/

Church Activities

(visit our website www.newarkcongregational.com for more details)

Sunday Worship



On most Sundays our services are traditional in style with hymns, a sermon, prayers etc. On the first Sunday of the month this includes Communion. All our services are also on Zoom.

11.00 – 12.00 each Sunday (except when Café Church).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84890359132>

Café Church



On the 4th Sunday each month we have a more informal service in the church hall with breakfast, the Sunday papers, a quiz, film clips, discussion etc. Also available on Zoom (but without the breakfast!)

10.30 – 11.00 for breakfast followed by service 11.00 – 12.00.

Film Club



Film club is like a book club with DVDs. Each month we watch a film and meet up online via Zoom to talk about selected clips. For people of all faiths or none.

19.30 – 21.00. 2nd Wed. of month

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89371371831>

Inclusive Church



The Church has signed up to the 'Inclusive Church Statement' which states:

"We believe in **inclusive church** – a church which **celebrates and affirms every person** and does not discriminate.

We will continue to challenge the church where it continues to discriminate against people on grounds of **disability, economic power, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.**

We believe in a Church which **welcomes and serves all people** in the name of Jesus Christ; which is scripturally faithful; which seeks to proclaim the Gospel afresh for each generation; and which, in the power of the Holy Spirit, allows all people to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Jesus Christ."



London Road Congregational Church Manifesto - How we try to be church.

We don't ask people in our church to sign up to lots of rules in order for them to belong.

Instead we aim to live the best lives we can and to help others to do the same.

How we want to live

- To follow the way of Jesus rather than rules and conventions;
- To doubt and question without fear, and never be daunted by orthodoxies and authority figures;
- To live courageously, and resist being motivated by guilt or fear;
- To look for God in every person and situation;
- To embrace messiness and imperfection while aspiring to be all that we can be.

How we want to love.

- To make a priority of kindness and compassion, and pursue justice for all people;
- To resist passing judgement, and befriend people in the margins;
- To love the world and honour it as God's body;
- To celebrate the uniqueness of everyone, laugh often, enjoy friends and welcome strangers.

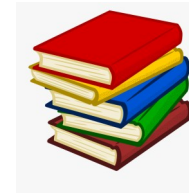
Pub Theology



A monthly meeting over a drink at The Prince Rupert pub to discuss general topics of Theology and Philosophy. Designed to be for people of all faiths and none.

19.30 – 21.00 last Thu. of month.

Bible Book Club



Book club meets monthly to discuss a book on a Christian theme that we are reading together. We take the books in bite-size chunks – it might take us several months to discuss a whole book.

Online via Zoom. 19.30 – 21.00. 4th Wed. of the month.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89357061321>

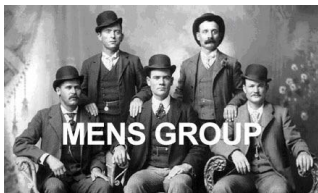
Just Sing! Community Choir



Just Sing! is open to anyone who would like to sing with a choir. There are no auditions and if you can't afford to pay it's free. We sing a wide range of musical styles. Our annual concert raises large sums for local charities

10.00 – 12.00 alternate Saturday mornings in the Church Hall

Men's Group



We meet in the church hall where we share breakfast, discuss, or hear talks on topics of interest. Topics are as varied as the members want them to be, with plenty of time to talk and to listen. A welcoming and secure place where we can simply be.

Further information ricthevic53@gmail.com
09.00 – 10.30 Saturday—dates vary.
Monthly except August

Coffee, Craft and Conversation



Whether you knit, crochet, sew, make cards or just want some company and a drink with like minded crafters, we'd love to meet you. You can bring your own craft from home or make an outreach item for us (we will provide the materials for this). For more information please email either Julia on nanajulia58@gmail.com or Victoria on flirtingkitten30@gmail.com.

10.00 – 11.30 First Friday of month

Friday Focus



Open to all - meet for a coffee and a chat each Friday.

10.00 – 11.30 Friday (except first Friday)

The Sanctuary



A quiet space where anyone can pop in and enjoy some time for themselves.

Should anyone want to talk things over there will be people available to talk to but this is totally a choice for the individual. No one will be 'pushing religion' at you.

Just drop in and find refreshment away from your busy lives. **14.30 – 16.00 Friday**

Live at London Road



We are holding a growing number of music and drama events in the church hall and have recently brought our Arts activities under the umbrella 'Live at London Road.'

Events have included:

Folk/Rock - artists have include Plumhall, Winter Wilson and the Rye Sisters

Classical music and speech - ArkAngel

Drama - The Pantaloons.

The newly formed committee are working on the future programme.

To join our mailing list send an email to ricthevic53@gmail.com